(b) if so, the quantum of loss incurred by these companies as a result thereof during the last one year; and

(c) what steps Government are taking to check, this wasteful expenditure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTR'/ OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) No, Sir. The broad guidelines laid down by Government about setting up of refuelling facilities at airports are being adhered to by the oil companies concerned (IOC, HPCL and BPCL).

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

Malpractices by LPG Dealers

3608. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will (he Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to sta c:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news -hem which appeared in the Hindustan Times of the 15-8-1988 under .he capton 'Gas services denied' wherein it has been stated that LPG dea lers of Indian Oil are harassing the consu- by insisting on purchasing gas stoves to agencies suggested by them; and

(b) if so, what steps Govt are takrhg to check such malpractices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): and (B) Complaints received Pgainst LPG distributors about their pressurising allottees of LPG connections to purchase gas sloves are investigated and customer's grievances addressed. All distributors are required to prominently a notice in their showrooms that it is not for a consumer LPG stove/burners from the distributor releasing the connection. Action against erring distributors is taken in line with the Marketing Discipline Guidelines.

Pending Applications for Telephones Connections in Orissa

3609. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of applications pending for the grant of telephone connections under different categories in the State of OriSsa as on 31st March, 1988;

(b) the number Of telephone connections likely to be provided during this year; and

(c) by when all the pending applications are likely to be disposed of?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI G1RIDHAR GOMANGO):

(a)
As on 31.3.88, Ihere are 6412 applicants waiting for telephone connections in Orissa, out of which 599 are under OYT, 4853 under non-OYT & 960 under special category.

(b) About 3500 new telephone connections are likely to be provided during the year 1988-89.

(c) The objective OF the Department is to meet by the end of the Seventh Plan the average registered demand upto 1.4.87 in the case of Main Automatic Exchange-I (MAX-L up o 1.4.88 in the case of MAX-II , and unto 1.4.90 in the case of MAX-IH and manual exchanges. The remaining waiting list will bo cleared gradlually dur- ing the Eighth Five Year Plan.

Scop? of Indo-West German and Indo-Japanese industrial collaborations

3610. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEV: SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state.

(a) whether there is any scope of Indo-WestOerma industrial collaborations and joint ventures in the near future;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and